

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES**

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January 12, 2001

CHDP Provider Information Notice No: 01-01 (Corrected CHDP Provider Information Notice No. 00-10)

TO: ALL CHILD HEALTH AND DISABILITY PREVENTION (CHDP)  
PROGRAM PROVIDERS

SUBJECT: CORRECTION TO "CHANGE IN WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN  
(WIC) SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM REGARDING  
BIOCHEMICAL NUTRITION NEED FOR INFANTS AND CHILDREN"

This notice transmits information on recent revisions to the WIC policy regarding blood test requirements for anemia. New guidelines contain criteria for testing which now correlate to the CHDP periodicity schedule. This is expected to simplify testing for children in the WIC program as the need to draw blood outside of the periodicity schedule should be reduced.

Enclosed is a corrected version of CHDP Provider Information Notice No. 00-10 which was mailed to you previously. The full text of the changed guidelines can be found in WIC Program Manual Revision 00-01 dated February 16, 2000. If you have any questions about the new policy, please contact your local WIC office.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Elizabeth H. Gregory".

Maridee A. Gregory, M.D., Chief  
Children's Medical Services Branch

Enclosure

## Changes in the Blood Testing Requirements for Women, Infants, and Children (January 12, 2001)

WIC is pleased to announce changes in the requirement for blood testing. The WIC blood test requirement has been separated from WIC eligibility certification. WIC biochemical assessments will now be aligned with medically recognized schedules for health exams rather than arbitrary certification periods.

WIC applicants and participants are required to provide test results to the WIC program within 90 days of certification. This means they will be able to enroll in WIC while awaiting an appointment or the results of the test. Lack of a blood test will not affect WIC eligibility as long as a qualifying nutritional need is present.

The former 90-day limit on the age of the blood test results has been removed. The Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) Periodicity Schedule should be followed for infants and children. If the child is up to date according to the CHDP exam schedule, WIC will accept the results from the last exam.

Older infants enrolling in WIC for the first time will not need a blood test unless they are nine months old on the date of the WIC appointment. (Formerly WIC required this at six months of age.) All infants will require a test for anemia for the one-year certification. This should be done as part of a regularly scheduled health check-up between nine and 12 months of age. A blood test for anemia done between six and nine months can be used to meet this requirement. Tests done during infancy cannot be used for children older than 14 months. All children on WIC will need a blood test at least once every 12 months. If the results are low (Hgb.  $\leq$  10.9 gm. or HCT  $\leq$  32.9 percent), a follow-up blood test is required within six months.

For pregnant women, the blood test must be performed during pregnancy. For postpartum (breastfeeding or non-breastfeeding) women, the blood test must be done after the end of pregnancy.

### Summary of Infant/Child Blood Work Requirements

Age at CHDP Exam Blood Test	Blood Test Results	Age at WIC Certification	Age Next Blood Test Due
7 – 11 months	WNL $\geq$ 11 gm or 33%	12 months	18 months
12 – 15 months	WNL $\geq$ 11 gm or 33%	12 months	24 months
12 – 18 months	WNL $\geq$ 11 gm or 33%	18 months	30 months
Yearly 2, 3, 4	WNL $\geq$ 11 gm or 33%	Age 24 to 59 months	1 year after last test
Any exam	ABN $\leq$ 10.9 gm or 32.9%	Any	6 months after last test

### Summary of Blood Work Requirements for Women

Category	Blood Test Required	WIC Certification	Follow-up Test Due
Pregnant	Any during pregnancy	Enrollment	Postpartum Certification
Breastfeeding	Any postpartum	6 weeks postpartum	None
Breastfeeding	None if on file from 6 wks.	6 months postpartum	None
Non-breastfed	Any postpartum	6 weeks postpartum	None